



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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October 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors/Coordinators, Exceptional Children Program
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas, Director

SUBJECT: REGIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TRAININGS

Considering Assistive Technology (AT) to Support Student Success Across All Academic Settings

This interactive professional development will introduce participants to assistive technology (AT) strategies, systems and tools that may be easily and effectively integrated into the classroom by teachers, teaching assistants and related services personnel. This professional learning will provide a broad overview of AT, including IDEA definition and the multiple components that may be considered to support student success and productivity. Specific focus will be on the use of AT, including augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), with students across the adapted curriculum, resource and general education classrooms to improve reading, writing, literacy and organizational skills.

Compatible with a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) model, simple and practical ideas for structuring the classroom environment and implementing AAC/AT with students of all ages and grade levels will be shared. Participants will be introduced to the SETT framework which helps to identify practical AT solutions by focusing on the Student, Environment, Task and Tools. Participants will have opportunities to explore no- and low-tech AAC/AT materials and tools and learn to use them interactively and successfully with their students.

Space is limited to 75 participants on a first come basis. This training is intended for special and general education teachers, teaching assistants, related services personnel and other exceptional children staff.

**This introductory PL is not intended for existing Assistive Technology teams. We encourage LEAs to consider sending 2-3 people so that they may bring information back and share with others.*

Presenters: Sue Porr, MEd., MS, OTR/L; Pat Byers, MS., CCC-SLP; Debbie Reinhartsen, PhD., CCC-SLP; and Becky Pretzel, PhD.

Dates, Locations and Registration Links:

October 31, 2019 8:30 – 4:00	Buncombe County Schools Central Office, 175 Bingham Rd., Asheville, NC 28806	http://tinyurl.com/y3g8c8z4
November 1, 2019 8:30 – 4:00	CCS Boardroom, 2285 N. Anderson Ave., Newton, NC 28658	http://tinyurl.com/y4x7v79b
November 7, 2019 8:30 – 4:00	Sadie Saulter Conference Room, 1019 Fleming St., Greenville, NC 27834	http://tinyurl.com/yxmkhxmk
November 8, 2019 8:30 – 4:00	Impact Alamance Conference Center, 133 East Davis St., Burlington, NC 27215	http://tinyurl.com/y69elytl

Questions regarding this professional development may be directed to Dr. Debbie Reinhartsen at debbie.reinhartsen@cidd.unc.edu, Becky Edmondson at becky.edmondson@cidd.unc.edu, Sue Porr at sue.porr@cidd.unc.edu, or Matthew Martinez at matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.gov.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER